

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A spinal orthopedic device and tool set, comprising an intervertebral spacer device having first and second baseplates mounted to one another such that the first and second baseplates are articulatable relative to one another, wherein at least one of the baseplates has at least one pair of engagement holes, each hole of the at least one pair being separated from the other hole of the at least one pair by a space having a length; and ~~a manipulation tool having a distal end supporting a pair of engagement posts, each post of the pair being separated from the other post of the pair by a space having the length, such that the pair of engagement posts is positionable in the at least one pair of engagement holes such that movement of the at least one of the baseplates relative to the distal end of the manipulation tool is limited by interference between the engagement posts and the engaged engagement holes, such that the at least one of the baseplates is manipulatable using the manipulation tool.~~ a manipulation tool having a handle, a proximal end and a distal end, the handle extending along a first longitudinal axis, the manipulation tool further including a first engagement post and a second engagement post, each engagement post positioned proximate the distal end of the manipulation tool, the first engagement post extending along a second longitudinal axis and the second engagement post extending along a third longitudinal axis, the first longitudinal axis being substantially perpendicular to the second and third longitudinal axes, the first engagement post being separated from the second engagement post by a second space having a length, said length of said second space being equivalent to said length of said space between the pair of engagement holes of the intervertebral spacer such that the first and second engagement posts are positionable in the at

least one pair of engagement holes, said first and second engagement posts defining a pair of engagement posts.

2. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 1, wherein the at least one of the baseplates has at least two pairs of engagement holes; and wherein the pair of engagement posts is positionable in any pair of the at least two pairs of engagement holes.

3. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 2, wherein the at least two pairs of engagement holes comprise three engagement holes, a first of the three engagement holes being separated from a second of the three engagement holes by a space having the length, the second of the three engagement holes being separated from a third of the three engagement holes by a space having the length.

4. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 2, wherein the at least two pairs of engagement holes comprises three pairs of engagement holes, the three pairs of engagement holes comprising four engagement holes, a first of the four engagement holes being separated from a second of the four engagement holes by a space having the length, the second of the four engagement holes being separated from a third of the four engagement holes by a space having the length, the third of the four engagement holes being separated from a fourth of the four engagement holes by a space having the length.

5. The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 1, wherein each baseplate has an inwardly facing surface and an outwardly facing surface; and wherein the baseplates are mounted to one another such that the inwardly facing surfaces face one another and the outwardly facing surfaces face away from one another; and

wherein one of the inwardly facing surfaces has at least one pair of the at least one pair of engagement holes.

5. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 1, wherein each baseplate has an inwardly facing surface and an outwardly facing surface; and wherein the baseplates are mounted to one another such that the inwardly facing surfaces face one another.

6. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 5, wherein the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate has the at least one pair of the at least one pair of engagement holes, and wherein the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplate has at least one other pair of the at least one pair of engagement holes.

7. (currently amended) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim ~~1~~6, wherein the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate has three pairs of engagement holes, and the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplate has two pairs of engagement holes; and wherein the pair of engagement posts is positionable in any of the pairs of engagement holes.

8. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 7, wherein the three pairs of engagement holes comprise four engagement holes, a first of the four engagement holes being separated from a second of the four engagement holes by a space having the length, the first of the four engagement holes being separated from a third of the four engagement holes by a space having the length, the second of the four engagement holes being separated from a fourth of the four engagement holes by a space having the length.

9. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 8, wherein the two pairs of engagement holes comprise three engagement holes, a first of the three engagement holes being separated from a second of the three engagement holes by a space having the length, the first of the three engagement holes being separated from a third of the three engagement holes by a space having the length.

10. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 9, wherein the first and second engagement holes of the four engagement holes are evenly distributed about an anterior aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate, the first and third engagement holes of the four engagement holes are evenly distributed about a left antero-lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate, and the second and fourth engagement holes of the four engagement holes are evenly distributed about a right antero-lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate; and wherein the first engagement hole of the three engagement holes is centered at an anterior aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplate, the second engagement hole of the three engagement holes is centered at a left antero-lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplate, and the third engagement hole of the three engagement holes is centered at a right antero-lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplate.

11. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 10, wherein the anterior aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate and the anterior aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplates are co-planar; and wherein the left antero-lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate and the left antero-

lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplates are co-planar; and wherein the right antero-lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the first baseplate and the right antero-lateral aspect of the inwardly facing surface of the second baseplates are co-planar.

12. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 1, wherein the at least one pair of engagement holes comprises at least one engagement hole centered at a first desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, and at least one engagement hole centered at a second desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

13. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 12, wherein the first desired surgical approach aspect is an anterior aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, and the second desired surgical approach aspect is an antero-lateral aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

14. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 12, wherein the at least one pair of engagement holes comprises two pairs of engagement holes, and the two pairs of engagement holes comprise three engagement holes, a first of the three engagement holes being separated from a second of the three engagement holes by a space having the length, the second of the three engagement holes being separated from a third of the three engagement holes by a space having the length; and wherein the second engagement hole of the three engagement holes is centered at the second desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, and wherein the first engagement hole of the three engagement holes is positioned at the first desired surgical approach aspect of the

at least one of the baseplates, and wherein the third engagement hole of the three engagement holes is positioned at a third desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

15. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 14, wherein the first desired surgical approach aspect is an anterior aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, the second desired surgical approach aspect is left antero-lateral aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, and the third desired surgical approach aspect is a right antero-lateral aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

16. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 1, wherein the at least one pair of engagement holes comprises first and second engagement holes evenly distributed about a desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

17. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 16, wherein the desired surgical approach aspect is an anterior aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

18. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 17, wherein the desired surgical approach aspect is a first desired surgical approach aspect; and wherein the at least one pair of engagement holes comprises at least three pairs of engagement holes, and the at least three pairs of engagement holes comprise four engagement holes, the four engagement holes comprising the first and second engagement holes distributed about the first desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, the four engagement holes further comprising a third engagement hole positioned such that the

first engagement hole and the third engagement hole are evenly distributed about a second desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, the four engagement holes further comprising a fourth engagement hole positioned such that the second engagement hole and the fourth engagement hole are evenly distributed about a third desired surgical approach aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

19. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 18, wherein the first desired surgical approach aspect is an anterior aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, the second desired surgical approach aspect is left antero-lateral aspect of the at least one of the baseplates, and the third desired surgical approach aspect is a right antero-lateral aspect of the at least one of the baseplates.

20. (original) The spinal orthopedic device and tool set of claim 18, wherein the first of the four engagement holes is separated from the second of the four engagement holes by a space having the length, the first of the four engagement holes is separated from the third of the four engagement holes by a space having the length, and the second of the four engagement holes is separated from the fourth of the four engagement holes by a space having the length

21. (new) A spinal orthopedic device and tool set,
comprising:

an intervertebral spacer device having first and
second baseplates mounted to one another such that the first and
second baseplates are articulatable relative to one another, the
first baseplate having a first inner surface and the second
baseplate having a second inner surface, wherein when the first
baseplate is mounted to the second baseplate the first inner

surface faces the second inner surface, the intervertebral spacer device further including at least a first hole and a second hole, each hole disposed in at least one of the first baseplate or second baseplate, each of the holes having a closed end and an open end, wherein the open ends of the first hole and the second hole are exposed at the first inner surface of said first baseplate or the second inner surface of the second baseplate such that the open ends face the other of the first inner surface or the second inner surface; and

a manipulation tool having a handle, a proximal end and a distal end, the manipulation tool also having a pair of engagement elements adjacent the distal end, the pair of engagement elements configured to be engaged with the first hole and second hole of the intervertebral spacer device simultaneously.